



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
2300 E STREET NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 6250.14A  
BUMED-24  
16 Feb 2001

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6250.14A

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery  
To: Ships and Stations Having Medical Department Personnel  
Subj: PROCUREMENT OF DERATTING/DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES

Ref: (a) MANMED article 22-37  
(b) SECNAVINST 6210.2A  
(c) International Health Regulations, article 53a (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) Elements of the Deratting and Deratting Exemption Program  
(2) Specifications for Approved Rat Guards and Directions for Their Use

1. Purpose. To provide procedures for ships to procure a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate (CDC Form 75.5) from a Navy Medical Department representative (MDR) who has been granted United States Public Health Service (USPHS) authority to conduct deratting inspections and issue deratting and deratting exemption certificates.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 6250.14.

3. Scope. This instruction augments the general information in references (a) and (b), complies with rodent control requirements of reference (c), and provides specific information and guidance through enclosures (1) and (2).

4. Discussion

a. Reference (a) requires the senior medical department representative on a ship proceeding to a foreign port to obtain a deratting or deratting exemption certificate. Because of the potential for any ship to be deployed to any region with little notice, all deployable vessels must maintain a current deratting or deratting exemption certificate attesting to their deratting status.

b. Deratting measures are required when evidence of a rodent infestation is found. Upon elimination of the rodent infestation, a deratting or deratting exemption certificate will

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be issued, confirming deratting has occurred. If there is no indication of rodent activity onboard the ship, the certificate is issued, exempting the need for deratting measures.

c. Certification of deratting or deratting exemption is valid for 6 months. It may be extended once by the original issuer for a period of 1 month, to allow better and more thorough inspection for subsequent certification.

d. Rodent inspection and deratting or deratting exemption certification are generally available through quarantine stations in major ports of the United States (U.S.). Inspection and certification are also available from Navy MDRs who have been granted USPHS authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates. Commands with USPHS designated MDRs include U.S. naval hospitals, branch medical clinics, Navy Disease Vector Ecology and Control Centers, Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Units, and some surface ships.

## 5. Action

a. Commanding officers of ships requiring deratting or deratting exemption certificates must submit requests by message, telephone, or letter to the area Navy command that has a Navy MDR designated by the USPHS. Ships with personnel authorized to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates must request inspection and certification from another command. A ship certificate may not be issued or extended by personnel assigned to that ship.

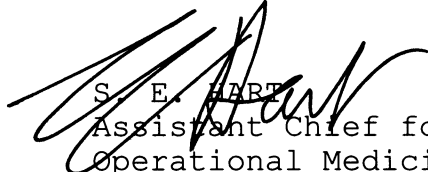
b. MDRs designated by the USPHS, upon receipt of a request, must arrange completion of required procedures following enclosure (1).

6. Implementation. Area, fleet, force, and type commanders may issue such implementing instructions as deemed necessary to ensure compliance by ships under their operational control. Enclosure (2) provides guidelines for proper use of rat guards in those areas where local instructions or local conditions require their use.

7. Forms. Additional copies of the deratting or deratting exemption certificate (CDC Form 75.5) may be obtained from the

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Director, Division of Quarantine, Center for Prevention Services,  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (E-3), 1600 Clifton  
Road, Atlanta, GA 30333-5000, telephone number (404) 639-8100.

  
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Assistant Chief for  
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Available from:

<http://navymedicine.med.navy.mil/instructions/external/external.htm>

ELEMENTS OF THE DERATTING AND DERATTING EXEMPTION PROGRAM

1. Issuance of Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificates.

Deratting or deratting exemption certificates are issued only by a Navy Medical Department representative (MDR) and must be granted by a U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) authority.

a. Application for Designation. A Navy MDR from a shore command or a surface ship which provides medical support to other vessels may submit an application for designation as a USPHS officer with authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates for ships. The application letter must be submitted by the command to the Director, Division of Quarantine, Center for Prevention Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (E-3), Atlanta, GA 30333-5000, via the Commanding Officer, Navy Environmental Health Center (Preventive Medicine Directorate), 2510 Walmer Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23513-2617. The application must include ports to be serviced.

b. USPHS Seal. Each granted USPHS authority will receive from the USPHS an initial supply of deratting or deratting exemption certificates (CDC Form 75.5) and a numbered USPHS seal. The seal will be used only in executing deratting or deratting exemption certificates. The designated MDR must keep the seal secured when not in use. Upon transfer or when the USPHS authority is terminated, a request may be made to transfer the authority and the seal to another Navy MDR as outlined in paragraph 1.a. If the seal is not officially transferred (certified mail recommended), it must be returned to the CDC (certified mail recommended), or otherwise disposed of as directed by that division. Information copies of all correspondence pertaining to termination of the authority and return of the seal must be forwarded to the Commanding Officer, Navy Environmental Health Center (Preventive Medicine Directorate).

c. Authority to Issue. Authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates may not be further delegated.

2. USPHS Quarantine Rodent Inspector. USPHS authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates will be granted only when there is present in the command a preventive medicine

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technician (NEC 8432) or other Naval MDR certified as a USPHS Quarantine Rodent Inspector. This training and certification is included in the Preventive Medicine Technician School, Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego, CA. When a certified inspector is transferred without a qualified replacement, the authority to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates is rescinded and the seal must be returned to the USPHS per paragraph 1b of this enclosure. The command holding the seal is responsible for ensuring that personnel qualified as USPHS quarantine rodent inspectors are available.

3. Inspection. Rodent inspection must be done during daylight hours to allow thorough inspection of exterior areas. A certificate is to be issued only if adequate inspection of the ship has been completed. Holds must be empty or contain only ballast or other material unattractive to rodents and stored in a manner that makes thorough inspection possible. Following elimination of rodent investigation, the designated Navy MDR will issue a deratting or deratting exemption certificate, confirming that deratting has occurred. If no evidence of rodent activity is found upon inspection, certification of deratting exemption is given. An oil tanker with full holds may be issued certification of deratting exemption.

4. Deratting

a. Deratting will be accomplished by an aggressive rodent surveillance and control program if inspection indicates the presence of rodents. Continue the program for at least 3 to 5 days after all indications of an active infestation have ceased before requesting reinspection by the rodent inspector or USPHS representative. In the absence of trained personnel where immediate eradication is considered mandatory and because of the threat of disease, contact the cognizant Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit or Navy Disease Vector Ecology and Control Center by message for further instruction.

b. Whenever possible, deratting must be done when the holds are empty. When a ship is in ballast, it must be done before loading. When deratting has been accomplished to the satisfaction of the rodent inspector, a deratting certificate will be issued by the designated USPHS officer.

c. No attempt should be made to prevent a ship's movement due solely to the presence of rodents. If thorough deratting cannot be accomplished, it should be noted on the current certificate.

5. Authority of Navy Medical Department Representatives (MDR) to Issue Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificates Where USPHS Personnel are Available. A Navy MDR may be authorized to issue deratting or deratting exemption certificates for Navy vessels even where USPHS personnel are available. This provision is subject to any local modification agreed upon between the Navy and the USPHS, regarding division of responsibility for issuance of deratting or deratting exemption certificates.

6. Issuance of Certificates. Deratting or deratting exemption certificates must be issued in duplicate. The original is provided to the ship and the issuing medical department retains a copy. An extension of deratting or deratting exemption certification for a period of 1 month may be obtained. This extension may be noted on the original certificate or provided as a separate form (CDC Form 75.5B). If an extension is requested and approved by the original issuer by message, CDC Form 75.5B should be forwarded to the ship. Port authorities may or may not honor a message granting extension.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR APPROVED RAT GUARDS  
AND DIRECTIONS FOR THEIR USE

1. Rat guards are required to prevent rodent infestation in areas with endemic rodent-borne disease or where large rodent populations are known to be present. Properly constructed and correctly installed rat guards are vital to the prevention effort.

2. Specifications. Only rat guards that meet the requirements in military specification MIL-G-2767C and comply with U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) specifications are approved for use on Navy ships. General requirements are provided below and illustrated in figure 1.

a. Materials. Rat guards will be made of galvanized sheet steel or sheet aluminum alloy. They must consist of a disc and a tapered sleeve.

b. Dimensions. Rat guards must conform to the following dimensions:

<u>Dimensions (inches)</u>		<u>Thickness of Disc, Sleeve, and Guide</u>	
Inside	Outside	Steel	Aluminum
Diameter	Diameter	(Sheet Gauge)	(B and S Gauge)
3	36	18	16
5	48	18	16
8	48	18	16

3. Placement. Rodents are able to jump as high as 3 feet and as far as 4 feet horizontally, and can climb almost any line. This must be considered when placing rat guards. To ensure effective placement of rat guards, these guidelines must be followed:

a. Choose sleeve diameter to closely match the line or group of lines.

b. Place rat guards at a point on the line at least 6 feet from the pier, with the point at least 2 feet from the ship.

c. The point of the cone shall face the ship.

d. Two or more closely placed lines should be grouped to pass through one rat guard, or the rat guards should be placed side-by-side to prevent rodents from jumping from one line to another to skirt the rat guards.

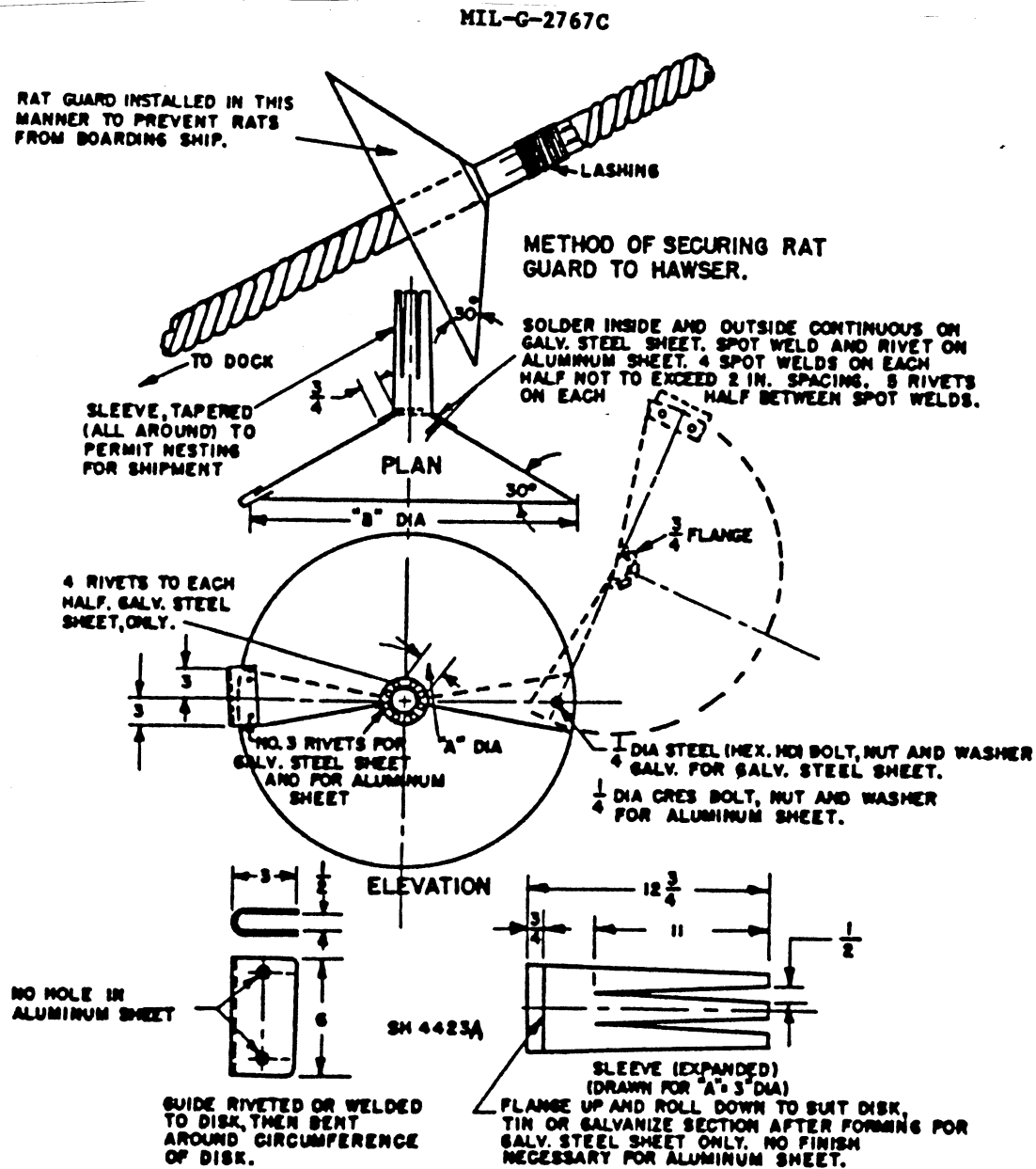


Figure 1. Assembly of Rat Guards



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e. Any gaps between the sleeve and the line must be securely fitted with material which cannot be easily removed or destroyed by gnawing rodents.